



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS

Week Ending: August 5, 2012

Number: 22

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 5, 2012

Periods of rainfall continued to appear throughout the Commonwealth this week, rebounding dehydrated crops and pastures. Lower temperatures and beneficial weather patterns have brought some areas out of drought-like conditions by giving crops and pastures much needed relief. Days suitable for field work were 5.9. Soybean crop conditions have been increasing as the wet weather has continued. Cotton, peanuts and corn, in some areas, are in great shape as well. Vegetable harvest continued, with squash, cantaloupes, peppers and watermelons all yielding well. Farmers' activities included scouting for insects, harvesting corn for silage, applying post emergence pesticides when needed, and attending field days.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 5, 2012	18	31	50	1
July 29, 2012	19	32	48	1
July 22, 2012	14	35	48	3
July 15, 2012	18	46	34	2
July 8, 2012	29	48	23	0

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 5, 2012	16	45	38	1
July 29, 2012	17	41	40	2
July 22, 2012	15	42	40	3
July 15, 2012	16	56	28	0
July 8, 2012	19	51	30	0

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**Virginia Cooperative Extension
Service**



Virginia Tech

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A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu

Virginia State University



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	14	20	35	29	2
Livestock	3	8	26	53	10
Hay, Other	16	21	38	21	4
Hay, Alfalfa	4	9	37	45	5
Corn	16	23	36	21	4
Soybeans	5	10	38	36	11
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	16	30	25	21	8
Tobacco, Burley	8	16	36	38	2
Tobacco, Dark Fire	35	43	16	6	0
Peanuts	0	0	5	71	24
Cotton	0	0	11	53	36
Apples, All	24	2	25	48	1
Peaches	3	15	47	33	2
Grapes	0	1	17	81	1
Oats	0	0	34	66	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	95	91	91	93
Corn Dough	65	49	59	65
Corn Dent	42	22	34	33
Corn Silage Harvested	43	30	12	9
Soybeans Blooming	54	38	61	63
Soybeans Setting Pods	21	16	34	29
Peanuts Pegged	93	85	79	82
Cotton Setting Bolls	87	60	69	74
Potatoes, Summer Harvested	99	94	91	90
Apples, Summer Harvested	40	35	48	48
Peaches Harvested	56	44	52	55

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING August 5, 2012

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Aug. 4	Mar. 1 to Aug. 4 normal	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	90	65	91	63	77	2	2703	2375	0.88	4.93	-3.71	20.33	-6.42
Norfolk	88	73	91	72	81	2	3098	2607	0.53	10.10	0.49	26.56	-1.39
Richmond	90	70	92	67	80	2	3023	2583	1.49	10.32	1.50	22.63	-3.99
Roanoke	87	67	91	64	77	1	2868	NA	1.50	7.30	-0.90	21.79	-4.46
Wash/Dulles	90	69	94	65	80	4	2731	NA	0.57	4.78	-3.32	17.59	-7.18

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

We have had scattered thunderstorms. On the Drought Monitor last week we were in the abnormally dry and this week we are out of it.

PRINCE WILLIAM (Paige Thacker)

Light rains finally came this past weekend. Farmers are irrigating food crops on a regular basis.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

A series of thunderstorms and rain showers this week provided moisture when much of the Rockbridge area's corn and soybean fields were in a critical stage. The timely rains improved pasture conditions and improved prospects for good second and third cuttings of hay. Rainfall totals for the week exceeded 1 inch for most of Rockbridge.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

The continued scattered showers have been beneficial to the areas receiving rainfall. While it remains hot (90's), the relief of excessive heat has been a relief to crops and livestock.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Dry conditions continue. Tobacco is being irrigated where water is available. Insects are starting to show up in soybeans and some producers are considering a spray.

CAMPBELL (Todd Scott)

Many farmers are feeding hay due to the dry conditions. Corn is a total loss in many areas or the yield is severely decreased. Soybeans look decent so far.

(Central continued)

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

The scattered showers throughout the county have been beneficial to the soybeans, hay and pasture. Less excessive heat has been a plus to the conditions as well.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

This past week was on average hotter than last week and certainly humid. The pattern of scattered thundershowers has continued across our area with good rain in spots and none in others, but visiting counties this week, our crops look magnificent by comparison. Our corn is green but most are lacking ears. What ears there are appear modest at best. Beans in our county may make a decent crop. I have seen a third cutting of alfalfa; still very little second cutting of grass.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Rainfall amounts for the week ranged from one half inch to 2 inches, which helped the soybean crop. Activities included attending field days, scouting soybeans for insects and preparing for corn harvest. Corn harvest will probably begin next week.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Scouting, marketing, and plans for 2013 are the topics of discussion this week. Scouting for soybean insects and some insecticide applications have gone out for armyworms and green clover worms. Corn has mostly done its thing, but some late planted full season corn could still use some rain. It is getting dry here again and we are hoping for showers next week. Haymaking continues. Hopefully late cuttings will provide some good hay yields. Vegetable harvest continues, squash, cantaloupes, peppers and watermelons are yielding well. This has been a very good tomato year also. Sweet potatoes and pumpkins are growing very well and could use some more rain.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

We are expecting scattered thunderstorms throughout the week. Let's keep our fingers crossed that rain covers all of Franklin County. It has been hit or miss from rain coverage the last couple months.

SOUTHEASTERN

MECKLENBURG (Taylor Clark)

Scattered rain over county during week with areas of damaging winds. Some tobacco was blown down last weekend.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Scattered and heavy showers fell over parts of our area this week. Cotton, soybeans and peanuts are in great shape and growers are scouting for diseases and insects. Some spray applications have been made.

up on replanting soybeans and weed control.

(Southeastern continued)

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

We continue to receive timely rains that are helping corn and soybean fields. Double-cropped soybean stands are somewhat uneven because of some flooding in low areas. Corn continues to look very promising for high yields.

VIRGINIA BEACH (Roy D. Flanagan III)

Overall conditions have been favorable for crop growth and field work.

SOUTHWESTERN

TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)

We have been getting some thunderstorms to help with dry conditions.

